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"PROBATION AT ENTRANCE"--A STUDY.

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PERSISTENCY AND SUCCESS OF 200 FALL, 1962, "PROBATION AT ENTRANCE" STUDENTS (WITH LESS THAN 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE) WAS STUDIED. PERCENTAGE OF MEN AND WOMEN FROM VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOLS, MEDIAN ENTRANCE TEST SCORES, MAJOR FIELDS CHOSEN, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WERE ENUMERATED. THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS CHOSE GOALS WITHIN THEIR ABILITY LEVELS, INDICATING SUCCESSFUL COUNSELING AND PROGRAMING. THOSE WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL WITH A GPA BETWEEN 1.7 AND 1.9 AVERAGED A GPA BETWEEN 1.5 AND 1.9 DURING THEIR FIRST COLLEGE SEMESTER. OVER 25 PERCENT AVERAGED 2.0 OR BETTER. THE AVERAGE "PROBATION AT ENTRANCE" STUDENT ATTEMPTED 12 UNITS AND COMPLETED ABOUT 10 IN THE FIRST SEMESTER. ABOUT 50 PERCENT WERE REMOVED FROM THE PROBATION LIST AT THE END OF ONE SEMESTER, WHILE A SIZABLE NUMBER WERE ON A SECOND PROBATION OR DROPPED OUT ENTIRELY. ABOUT 22 PERCENT REMAINED AT BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE ONE SEMESTER, OVER 30 PERCENT REMAINED FOUR OR MORE, AND 50 PERCENT LESS THAN THREE. TEN STUDENTS GRADUATED. A NORMAL AMOUNT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, MOSTLY IN ATHLETIC PROGRAMS OR SCHOOL CLUBS WAS REPORTED. OVER HALF HAD JOBS WITH A GENERAL RATE OF PAY SLIGHTLY OVER $1 PER HOUR. THIRTY-FOUR PERCENT DID NOT REPORT ANY EMPLOYMENT. IN GENERAL, MAJORS SELECTED WERE CONSISTENT WITH HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT. (DE)

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A STUDY:

"PROBATION AT ENTRANCE"

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

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June 1966

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JC 660 221

PROBATION AT ENTRANCE

INTRODUCTION

The Bakersfield College Admissions Office and the Student Personnel Office requested that a study of the "Probation at Entrance" students at Bakersfield College be made. The following questions were raised in regard to these students:

1. What is the number of these students coming to Bakersfield College?
2. What is the impact of the college experience on these students?
3. Are the educational and vocational goals of these students consistent with their abilities and high school experience?
4. How many of the students graduate from Bakersfield College? How long do these students remain at Bakersfield College?
5. What are the educational and vocational plans of these students?
6. Are the educational and vocational needs of these students being met?

PROBATION AT ENTRANCE DEFINED

New students who are entering Bakersfield College with less than a 2.0 high school grade point average, or who were placed in the Program "O" program are defined as "Probation at Entrance students." In general, these students, in their high school experience, have demonstrated that they are a high academic risk. This category of student needs the best possible opportunity to succeed in this "last chance." A limited unit load and careful selection of courses is generally recommended.

THE STUDENTS

The students studied in this project were taken from the 1962 high school graduating students who entered Bakersfield College in the Fall of 1962. For the Fall and the Spring semesters there was a total of 2059 students. Of this number, 310 were on probation at entrance. This amounts to about 15% of the total. We have used 200 students out of the 310 and the results reported here are based on information gathered from a careful examination of each student's folder, which contains all the information collected for that student during the time he was enrolled in Bakersfield College.

THE DATA

1. Graduating High School: Table I shows the graduating high school and the number and percent of students from each of the high schools in this area.

T A B L E I

SCHOOL	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL	PERCENT (Total)
Bakersfield High School	16	34	50	25.0
East Bakersfield High School .	10	24	34	17.0
North High School	9	13	22	11.0
South High School	7	17	24	12.0
Arvin High School	1	12	13	6.5
Burroughs High School	1	6	7	3.5
Kern Valley High School	ø	1	1	.5
McFarland High School	1	2	3	1.5
Shafter High School	2	7	9	4.5
Wasco High School	5	5	10	5.0
Delano High School	2	4	6	3.0
Tehachapi High School	1	1	2	1.0
Garces Memorial High School ..	ø	2	2	1.0
Miscellaneous	5	12	17	8.5
Total	60	140	200	100.0

2. Bakersfield College Majors: Table II lists the various majors selected by the "Probation at Entrance" students. In general, the majors selected seem to be consistent with the academic ability of these students and their past high school experience. The majority of the students select Agriculture, Drafting, Business, Law Enforcement, Office Practice, Auto Mechanics, and Art. Many other students seem to favor such majors as Nursing, Physical Education, and general studies (Letters and Science). About 5% of the students were undecided.

TABLE II

MAJOR	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Agriculture	13	1	14
Art	4	6	10
Auto Mechanics	12	Ø	12
Business Management	17	1	18
Dental Assisting	Ø	3	3
Dentistry	4	Ø	4
Drafting	12	Ø	12
Electronics	5	Ø	5
Engineering	3	Ø	3
Forestry	6	Ø	6
Home Economics	Ø	5	5
Law Enforcement	14	1	15
Letters & Science	17	6	23
Medical Lab Technician	1	1	2
Music	3	1	4
Nursing	Ø	9	9
Office Practice	Ø	16	16
Physical Education	8	1	9
Pharmacy	1	Ø	1
Pre-med	4	Ø	4
Retailing	1	Ø	1
Social Welfare	2	3	5
Teaching	3	4	7
Undecided	7	2	9
Veterinary	1	Ø	1
None listed	2	Ø	2
Total	140	60	200

3. High School Grade Point Average: Table III shows the distribution of high school grade points for the students who come to Bakersfield College on probation. It will be noted that two of the students have G.P.A.'s of 2.0 or better. These two students were classified "Program O" and, therefore, were on probation at entrance.

TABLE III

HIGH SCHOOL G.P.A.	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
None listed	2	ø	2
0.0 - 0.1	ø	ø	ø
0.2 - 0.4	ø	ø	ø
0.5 - 0.7	ø	ø	ø
0.8 - 1.0	1	ø	1
1.1 - 1.3	19	5	24
1.4 - 1.6	29	25	54
1.7 - 1.9	87	30	117
2.0 - 2.2	1	ø	1
2.3 - 2.5	1	ø	1
Total	140	60	200

4. Bakersfield College Grade Point Average: In Table IV the distribution of G.P.A.'s (Fall semester) is shown. These G.P.A.'s range from 0.1 to 3.9. The median grade point average for the "probation at entrance" student at Bakersfield College is between 1.5 - 1.9, which would suggest that about half of the students get off probation the first semester at Bakersfield College. Also, about 25% make a grade average of "C" or better their first semester in Bakersfield College.

TABLE IV

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE G.P.A.	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
None given	16	ø	16
0.0 - 0.4	8	17	25
0.5 - 0.9	16	6	22
1.0 - 1.4	25	8	33
1.5 - 1.9	42	13	55
2.0 - 2.4	29	12	41
2.5 - 2.9	2	2	4
3.0 - 3.4	2	1	3
3.5 - 3.9	ø	1	1
Total	140	60	200

5. Units Attempted: Table V shows the distribution of the number of units attempted the first semester by the students who enter Bakersfield

Colleges on probation. The range of units attempted is from 1 through 18. The median number of units attempted by these students is about 12. Over 50% of these students start the semester with less than 12 units.

T A B L E V

UNITS ATTEMPTED	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
3 - 4	2	1	3
5 - 6	3	1	4
7 - 8	7	5	12
9 - 10	15	14	29
11 - 12	40	16	56
13 - 14	43	14	57
15 - 16	21	3	24
17 - 18	2	2	4
None (recorded)	7	4	11
Total	140	60	200

6. Units Completed: The following Table (VI) shows the distribution of "units completed" by the 200 students who entered Bakersfield College on probation. The range is again from 1 through 18, and the median number is somewhere between 9 and 10 units. On the average, this is about 3 units less than these students start with. Over 50% of these probation-at-entrance students complete less than 10 units.

T A B L E V I

UNITS COMPLETED	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
1 - 2	3	4	7
3 - 4	5	2	7
5 - 6	10	4	14
7 - 8	12	9	21
9 - 10	24	9	33
11 - 12	26	10	36
13 - 14	23	4	27
15 - 16	18	3	21
17 - 18	1	2	3
None (recorded)	18	13	31
Total	140	60	200

7. Probation Report: Of the two hundred students included in this study, 91 were able to get off probation by the end of the Fall semester, 1962. Seventy-seven "probation at entrance" students were not able to make a G.P.A. of 1.5 or better and thus remove their probation status. Some thirty-two students had incomplete records.

The records show that some sixty-three students went on second probation and only twenty-eight were reinstated. However, the data in this area may not be complete. Undoubtedly all seventy-seven students who failed to get off probation were placed on second probation, and it is quite likely that more than twenty-eight of these students returned to continue their school work even though the records at our disposal did not show reinstatement.

8. Number of Semesters (including Summer): The number of semesters these students attended is shown in Table VII. The range is from 1 to 6-or-more semesters. About 50% attended less than three semesters, 22% stayed only one semester, and 12% attended six or more semesters.

T A B L E V I I

NUMBER OF SEMESTERS	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	PERCENT (Total)
One	30	14	44	22.0
Two	36	11	47	24.0
Three	9	6	15	8.0
Four	22	8	30	15.0
Five	13	3	16	8.0
Six	16	3	19	9.5
More than Six	3	1	4	2.0
Incomplete	11	14	25	13.0
Total	140	60	200	100.0

9. Eighth Grade I. Q.'s: The range of I.Q.'s for these "probation at entrance" students varies from 65 to 134. The I. Q.'s were measured when the students were in the Eighth grade. The median I. Q. is somewhere between 95 and 100. The distribution of these I.Q.'s is shown in Table VIII.

TABLE VIII

I. Q.	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Not given	57	24	81
65 - 69	2	Ø	2
70 - 74	Ø	Ø	Ø
75 - 79	5	2	7
80 - 84	7	5	12
85 - 89	5	4	9
90 - 94	7	4	11
95 - 99	12	8	20
100 - 104	18	6	24
105 - 109	8	2	10
110 - 114	12	4	16
115 - 119	3	Ø	3
120 - 124	3	1	4
125 - 129	Ø	Ø	Ø
130 - 134	1	Ø	1
Total	140	60	200

10. English Classification: The English Classification is shown in Table IX below. These data show that over 25% of these students were given an 080 classification (Program "O" English) but that seven of them received an English 1A classification.

TABLE IX

ENGLISH CLASSIFICATION	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Not given	5	10	15
English 080	39	12	51
English XA	67	24	91
English XB	23	13	36
English 1A	6	1	7
Total	140	60	200

11. I. T. E. D. English Test Score: In Table X is shown the Iowa Test of Educational Development objective English test scores. It will be noted that for the test scores available, the median score is between 13 and 15 and has a percentile rank of about 28.

T A B L E X

I.T.E.D. TEST SCORE	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Not given	83	36	119
4 - 6	1	1	2
7 - 9	5	3	8
10 - 12	13	4	17
13 - 15	19	9	28
16 - 18	13	4	17
19 - 21	5	2	7
22 - 24	Ø	1	1
25 - 27	1	Ø	1
Total	140	60	200

12. Nelson-Denny Reading Test Scores (Total): Table XI shows the distribution of reading scores for these "probation at entrance" students. The median score is between 50 and 59, giving a percentile rank of about 35. This would seem to be in line with the other test data given above and with the English classification.

T A B L E X I

READING TEST SCORES	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Not given	6	4	10
19 and below	9	6	15
20 - 29	10	8	18
30 - 39	17	9	26
40 - 49	17	9	26
50 - 59	23	8	31
60 - 69	14	8	22
70 - 79	22	4	26
80 - 89	13	2	15
90 - 99	5	1	6
100 - 109	2	1	3
110 - 119	2	Ø	2
Total	140	60	200

13. S. C. A. T. Scores: All entering students are required to take the School and College Ability Test. We have scores for 195 of the "probation at entrance" students. Table XII shows how the scores are distributed. The median score on the Verbal (V) test is within the 280-284 interval, giving a percentile rank of about 21. On the quantitative

(Q) test, the median score is between 290 and 294, giving a percentile rank of about 26. The Total median S C A T score comes in the 280-284 interval, giving a percentile rank of about 14. These scores are in line with the previous test data given.

T A B L E X I I

SCORE	"V" Score			"Q" Score			"T" Score		
	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
250-254	10	9	19	2	Ø	2			
255-259	2	1	3	1	2	3	3	4	7
260-264	8	4	12	2	8	10	Ø	2	2
265-269	14	5	19	1	3	4	5	5	10
270-274	11	9	20	8	8	16	6	9	15
275-279	20	5	25	11	3	14	15	10	25
280-284	12	11	23	10	16	26	25	9	34
285-289	15	3	18	16	4	20	18	9	27
290-294	18	4	22	19	5	24	22	2	24
295-299	10	2	12	15	1	16	18	3	21
300-304	11	4	15	15	4	19	17	3	20
305-309	4	Ø	4	11	1	12	5	1	6
310-314	1	Ø	1	15	1	16	2	Ø	2
315-319	Ø	Ø	Ø	6	1	7	1	Ø	1
320-324	1	Ø	1	3	Ø	3	Ø	Ø	Ø
325-329	1	Ø	1	1	Ø	1	1	Ø	1
330-334	Ø	Ø	Ø	2	Ø	2	Ø	Ø	Ø
Not given	2	3	5	2	3	5	2	3	5

14. Major High School Activities: On the Bakersfield College biographical data sheet, which is kept in the student's counseling folder, the student is requested to indicate his major high school activities. In Table XIII is shown a breakdown of the number of these activities recorded. The activities reported by the students can be summarized as follows: athletics, student body (offices, clubs, and special committees), music groups, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Service clubs, F. F. A. organizations, drama, Girl's League, Student teachers. It would appear that, in general, these students had a normal amount of school activities. Without doubt, athletics and school clubs constitute the major source of student activity while in high school.

T A B L E X I I I

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
One activity	31	9	40
Two activities	23	6	29
Three activities	13	12	25
Four activities	6	5	11
More than four activities	5	3	8
No activities	62	5	67
No information	Ø	20	20

15. Employment Experiences: On the student biographical sheet at Bakersfield College is a place to report employment experiences. These were tabulated and in Table XIV is shown the number of jobs (for pay) held by these "probation at entrance" students while in high school. For the men, these jobs were usually working for some business; i.e. box-boy, farm worker, oil companies, and many other similar jobs. For the women, the jobs were most often babysitters, office work, sales, telephone company, and house work.

TABLE XIV

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCES	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
One	19	14	33
Two	38	7	45
Three	30	4	34
Four	1	ø	1
None	52	15	67
No information	ø	20	20

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this study we have tried to look at a special group of college students who, because of their high school record, were classified as on "probation at entrance." We have compared their high school experience (high school G.P.A.) with their first semester experience at Bakersfield College (college G.P.A.).

We have also examined their educational and vocational goals to see if they are compatible with their abilities and academic records.

There has been an attempt made to determine how long these students persist in their academic endeavors...how many graduate and, in general, what is their success here at Bakersfield College.

We have evaluated the various academic test scores available for these students to see if their academic achievement correlates with their potentials and stated goals.

To understand and evaluate these students more completely, we have looked at ~~their~~ the activities they participated in while in high school and the kinds of job experience they have had during the stay in high school.

CONCLUSIONS

1. In general, the students who enter Bakersfield College with a "probation at entrance" classification come from the various "feeder" high schools in about the same proportion as the number of students who graduate from that high school and come to Bakersfield College for further education. For example, Bakersfield High School sends about twice as many students to Bakersfield College as does North High School, and about twice as many students (50) from Bakersfield High School have a "probation at entrance" status as do the students (22) from North High School.

2. The Bakersfield College majors selected by the "probation at entrance" students, in general, are consistent with their high school academic achievement as measured by their grades (G.P.A.) and the scores made on the various academic tests given. It is true that the college majors selected cover almost the entire curriculum, but the majority of the students seem to choose goals quite within their ability levels. This would suggest that the counseling program is functioning effectively and that the students are being well programmed.

3. The majority of the "probation at entrance" students graduate from high school with a G.P.A. between 1.7 and 1.9. During their first semester in college they achieve, on the average, a grade point average between 1.5 and 1.9. Over 25% of these students make a grade point average of 2.0 or better during their first semester in Bakersfield College. One student made a B+ average. It would seem that a good many of these students began to find themselves during their first semester at Bakersfield College.

4. The average "probation at entrance" student attempts about twelve units of college credit during his first semester at Bakersfield College. Perhaps this is due to the counselor's advice in suggesting a limited program. This would seem to be wise counsel in view of the fact that the average number of units completed by these students is about ten units.

5. About fifty percent of these "probation at entrance" students were able to "get off" probation at the end of one semester at Bakersfield College. (G.P.A. 1.5) However, a sizable number did go on second probation. While our information was not complete, a fairly large number of these students were reinstated and continued with their college work. Time did not permit us to investigate how many of these students were eventually able to "get off" probation. A fairly large number of them drop out of college.

6. About twenty-two percent of the 200 "probation at entrance" students remained at Bakersfield College only one semester, 24% stayed two semesters, and another 8% completed three semesters. Over 30% of these students remained at Bakersfield College four or more semesters. Ten of the students graduated and perhaps several more were eligible to graduate but did not actually go through the graduation exercises.

7. There is some evidence to indicate that slightly over half of the "probation at entrance" students report a normal number of high school activities. In about 34% of the cases the student did not report any high school activities and for 10% of the students, no information was available.

8. Over half of the "probation at entrance" students report that they had jobs for which they received pay. There was some variation in the kinds of jobs held and also in the pay received. In general, the rate of pay was slightly over $1.00 per hour.

   Thirty-four percent of the students did not report any employment. For another ten percent no biographical data sheet was available.